



# MANATABA MESSENGER

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## Festival celebrates Tribal heritage



(Above) Social Bird Dancing took place on the Saturday Night of the 37th Annual Native American Days Festival, held in Manataba Park.  
(Right) "Proud of Mohave Matriarch" Katherine Short leads five generations in the parade.  
Photos Courtesy of Valerie Welsh-Tahbo



### Native American Days provides stage for culture, entertainment and fun

The 37th Annual Native American Days Celebration was held from September 28-October 4 at Manataba Park.

With the theme "Restoring Native Pride," the festival included a wide variety of enjoyable activities for people of all ages.

The event kicked off with the Miss CRIT Pageant, with Hazel Flood being named the new Miss CRIT.

The weeklong event also included activities

such as a health fair, fun run, tournaments in several sports and games, a Native bands jam session, a parade through the streets of Parker.

The annual Native American Baby Contest was also a big draw. The winners of the contest are listed on Page 11.

Traditional singing and dancing took place as part of the event, and CRIT Theaters also held a "Native Visions" film showing, with free films by and about Native Americans.

Please see Pages 10 and 11 of this issue for more photos from the Native American Days celebration.

## Judge upholds CRIT ruling in eviction case

**Water Wheel ordered to pay millions in damages; CRIT legal rights reinforced**

The U.S. District Court in late September awarded a significant legal victory to CRIT in its case against a land lessor who has refused to abide by the terms of its lease.

In the case titled Water Wheel Camp Recreational Area, Inc.; Robert Johnson v. The Honorable Gary LaRance; Jolene Marshall, Judge David Campbell affirmed a ruling by the CRIT Tribal Court to evict Water Wheel and order the company to pay damages to CRIT for non-payment of rent.

The decision validates the Tribal Court's decision, allows the Tribes to move forward with the eviction of Water Wheel, Inc., and allows the Tribes to collect a multi-million dollar damage award. It also again upheld that CRIT has the full legal right to enforce leases and legal agreements on its lands in California.

"This is an important victory for CRIT and a ruling that upholds our Tribal sovereignty," said Tribal Chairman Eldred Enas.

"It shows that no one who enters into an agreement with CRIT is above the law and protects the integrity of the Tribal court system. CRIT is committed to moving forward with this matter and similar lease enforcement issues on its western boundary."

The Court also ruled that the facts of the case did not support CRIT exercising personal jurisdiction over Johnson.

This case followed from a suit in Tribal Court

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## News & Information From Your Tribal Council



**Eldred Enas,**  
Chairman



**Wayne Patch, Sr.**  
Vice Chairman



**Mervin Scott,**  
Jr., Secretary



**Dennis Welsh, Jr.,**  
Treasurer



**Valerie Welsh-**  
Tahbo



**Richard**  
Armstrong



**Johnny Hill, Jr.**



**Amanda Leivas-**  
Sharpe



**Herman "TJ"**  
Laffoon

### U.S. District Court's ruling a key victory for Tribal business

It wasn't a "Law & Order" style legal drama, but the recent ruling by a U.S. District Court judge in favor of CRIT over a lease dispute on CRIT's California lands is still a key legal triumph.

The case revolved around Water Wheel, Inc. and its owner Robert Johnson's refusal to honor the terms of a lease he had with the Tribes. CRIT Tribal Court and Tribal Appeals Court found him guilty of violating the terms of the lease and issued a multi-million dollar damage award, and the U.S. District Court ruling upheld the Tribal Courts' decision.

There are several ramifications to the ruling that will ensure a positive effect on Tribal enterprises:

- Johnson, among others, has been part of a group wrongly arguing that CRIT does not actually own land in California. Their point has been proven wrong repeatedly, but once again, the U.S. District Court ruling found that CRIT indeed is the owner and has the right to do business on land in California.

- The ruling also reinforced that CRIT has the legal right to enforce its contracts through the Tribal Court system, and to take action against those who do not honor their legal agreements with the Tribes.

- And it sends a message to those other property owners who would like nothing better than to take CRIT's lands away from us: They are wrong, and the legal system will not tolerate their misguided efforts to steal land-use income from the people of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.

CRIT is a welcoming place for non-members to do business. Our Tribal enterprises want nothing more than to be a responsible, contributing partner to the private sector and those who want to enjoy our wonderful community.

But we will always play by the rules, we will always honor our obligations, and we will always expect our business partners to do the same. And if they do not, we will protect our businesses, our people and our rights.

It wasn't a courtroom drama. But it was an important victory for our people.

### Training program receives stimulus funds

#### 25 Tribal members took part in job placement, leadership programs

The Employment Development & Training Program received funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as well as Department of Labor and Department of Economic Security funds, to help 25 CRIT members gain work experience in areas from auto shop to youth mentorship.

Participants ages 16-24, both in school and out of school, with a few on summer break from college, applied to the program and were interviewed to identify career interests and education goals. They also underwent career assessments with the La Paz Career Center that gave an introduction to those who are taking on their first job, and gave instruction into preparation for interviews, resumes, finance budgeting, benefits and more.

The program was conducted at a Work Readiness Workshop that was held June 1-4 at the BlueWater Resort & Casino. The attendees were matched by their career interest with Tribal departments and organizations in the community looking for workers.

The work experience gained by these participants will help with future endeavors and educational and career goals. It will also help those who gained their first experience of what the work force offers in preparation for jobs and taking on responsibilities as an employee.

Also, participants Daphne Jackson, Tiffany Jackson, Dalton Eswonia and Christa Carter attended the 8th Annual Indian Nations Camp in Wilcox from July 13-17.

The camp brought together students from the various tribes around Arizona and focused on bringing out the leadership in each individual, including finding what their strengths and weaknesses are and in turn utilizing those qualities to be an effective leader within their community.

The Employment Development & Training Program thanks the CRIT Tribal departments and those in the Parker community for supporting our youth workers, and congratulates those participants, families, friends, and all who supported the 2009 Summer Youth Work Experience Summer Program.

We send best wishes and continuing support to each of you and look forward to next year.

### CRIT to remove abandoned trailers at resort

#### Legal action underway to clean up property at Paradise Point Resort

The CRIT Tribal Council recently directed the Office of the Attorney General to take the necessary legal steps to begin removal of abandoned trailers and other dangerous or unsightly property left behind by former Permittees at Paradise Point Resort. This effort marks the first phase of a developing plan for the Resort as a whole.

In the 1960s, the Bureau of Land Management issued a Permit to the original developers of Paradise Point Resort, and later transferred operations of the Resort to the Tribes. Since that time, the Resort has grown, but more significantly, it has aged.

The early infrastructure — in particular the sewage system — was poorly constructed by the original developer, and failed in 2001, requiring the Tribes to close the first row of river-front home sites for health and safety reasons.

Many of the trailers along the front row could not be relocated by their owners due to state laws prohibiting the re-installation of mobile homes that are more than ten years old. Over the intervening years, several of those trailers have become dilapidated, damaged, or

otherwise unsafe, and for health and safety reasons, must now be removed.

In addition, a number of Permittees have simply ceased to pay rent to the Tribes for one reason or another, left their property on the formerly rented premises, and have apparently abandoned that property.

In such instances, the Tribes typically issues several notices of Permit violation, in the attempt to bring Permittees into compliance with the terms of their contracts. When this fails, and after significant past-due rent accrues, the Tribes take action to terminate the Permit. Thereafter, the former Permittee is required under the terms of the Permit to remove all personal property from the premises at their own expense.

Unfortunately, many former Permittees at Paradise Point Resort are simply ignoring their lawful obligations, and the burden of disposal of the abandoned property now falls to the Tribes. However, before any property can be removed, the Tribes must take the appropriate legal actions pursuant to Tribal laws regarding disposition of abandoned property.

The legal actions begin with the issuance of

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# TRAILERS,

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a Notice of Abandonment, both by mail, and by posting on the premises.

This is intended to put the last known owner of the property on notice that the Tribes deem the property abandoned. If the property owner expresses a continuing interest in the property, they are encouraged by the Tribes (and by the terms of their Permits), to remove it, and are provided ample opportunity to do so. However, if no response is received, or if the status of the property is contested by the owner, and the owner refuses to remove the property from Tribal premises, further legal action is usually required.

Recently, for example, four complaints were filed in Tribal Court asking the former Permittees to respond, or at least to confirm that they have no further interest in the property each left behind at Paradise Point Resort.

The Tribes have received no response from three of the four former Permittees (one is believed deceased), and the fourth has sought to resolve the matter amicably.

Though somewhat positive, this still leaves three mobile homes, and their contents for the Tribes to deal with.

Assuming no further response is coming from the former Permittees, the Tribes will seek a Writ of Restitution, legally establishing abandonment of the property, and granting it the legal right to remove, sell, or dispose of that property.

The cost to remove and properly dispose of the old mobile homes, trailers and other items is significant.

Once the legal process is complete, and the former owner has had a fair opportunity to recover their property, the Tribes, like any landlord, would be allowed to sell abandoned property to recover any outstanding rents, costs, or damages due.

Most often however, little of value remains on the premises which might be sold to offset those costs.

Although the Tribes would prefer that Permittees bear the costs associated with removing their personal property from the premises whenever a Permit terminates, that outcome has not, in fact, occurred in every instance.

Therefore, because the Tribes have a continuing obligation to protect the health and safety of the remaining occupants and visitors at Paradise Point Resort, it has begun the long, costly process of these Abandonment actions, and will continue to pursue them until all such problems are resolved.

# Upcoming Events

## BlueWater Resort & Casino events

- The BlueWater Resort & Casino Amphitheatre proudly presents Lonestar on October 17. Gates open at 7 p.m. and the concert starts at 8 p.m. Tickets for the Lonestar concert are now on sale in the Gift Shop. Ticket prices are \$25 in advance and \$30 day-of-show.
- The Relics ‘N’ Rods “Run To The Sun” Car Show will take place on October 22. BlueWater Resort & Casino is the final stop for this annual run. See more than 200 Custom Cars and Hot Rods between the hours of 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the East Parking lot. For more information on this event contact Steve Buckelew at (928) 453-1302 or e-mail at twobucks1@frontiernet.net.
- The 5th Annual BlueWater Resort & Casino ‘300’ Enduro boat race will take place on October 24. Sixty laps from BlueWater to Badenoch’s will test the mettle and will power of the racers and their equipment. For more information on this event contact Ross Wallach at (310) 318-4012 or e-mail at rossdbos26@yahoo.com.
- On October 31, the Annual Halloween Costume Contest will take place in the Dig Lounge. Sign-ups begin at 8 p.m., judging at 9 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded for best costume — \$500 for 1st place, \$300 for second place and \$200 for 3rd place. For more information contact Karen Halone at (928)669-7076 or e-mail khalone@bluewaterfun.com.
- The 9th Annual BlueWater Resort & Casino Triathlon will take place on November 8. The triathlon starts on the beach of the BlueWater Resort & Casino with a one-mile swim in the Colorado River, then the tri-athletes mount their bikes for a 34-mile course. The tri-athletes then put on their running shoes for a 5-mile run and the event finishes in front of the Atrium. For more information on this event contact Eddie Carlin at (928) 526-8761 or go online at www.mountainmaneevents.com.
- On November 14, BlueWater Resort & Casino will be the host property and title sponsor for the “Dam to Dam BlueWater Big Bass Classic” Bass Tournament. Local anglers will vie for the guaranteed \$1,000 1st Prize for this event. The tournament is limited to the first 35 teams. For more information contact Dempsey Holt at (928) 669-7035 or e-mail at dholt@bluewaterfun.com.
- Live in the BlueWater Resort & Casino Amphitheatre, BlueWater proudly presents Three Dog Night on November 21. Gates open at 7 p.m. and the concert starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale in the BlueWater Gift Shop. Tickets prices are \$25 in advance and \$30 day-of-show.
- BlueWater Resort & Casino proudly presents The 63rd Annual Thanksgiving Regatta on November 27 and 28. Come watch this annual event as the Southern California Speedboat Club presents some of the fastest boats on the water. For more information contact Ross Wallach at (310)318-4012 or rossdbos26@yahoo.com or on the web at www.scsracing.com.
- Mark you calendar for November 28 for

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# Current CRIT Job Opportunities

The following are some of the jobs currently open with CRIT, courtesy of the Human Resources Department. For a full listing, visit [www.critonline.com](http://www.critonline.com).

Position: Grants/Contract Specialist  
Department: Accounting  
Salary: Negotiable  
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Carpenter  
Department: CRIT Housing Improvement Program  
Salary: \$8.50-11.00 DOE  
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Chief Game Warden  
Department: CRIT Fish & Game  
Salary: \$40,000-50,000  
Close date: Thursday, October 22 at 5 p.m.

Position: Education Counselor  
Department: CRIT Education  
Salary: Negotiable per experience (10-month contract)  
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Secretary  
Department: CRIT Museum  
Salary: \$8 per hour (DOE)  
Close date: Friday, October 30 at 5 p.m.

Position: Secretary/Receptionist/Case Aide  
Department: Health Services — Social Services  
Salary: \$9.94-16.82 per hour (DOE)  
Close date: Open until filled

Position: General Manager  
Department: Colorado River Building Materials  
Salary: Negotiable/under contract  
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Sales Manager/Batch Plant Operator  
Department: Colorado River Sand & Rock Enterprise  
Salary: DOE  
Close date: Open until filled

Position: General Manager  
Department: Colorado River Sand & Rock Enterprise  
Salary: DOE  
Close date: Open until filled

To apply or for more information, contact CRIT Human Resources at 26600 Mohave Road, Parker, 85344, or call them at (928) 669-1321.



# New BlueWater GM hopes to boost profits, entice customers

## Parrish brings extensive background in gaming, advertising to new position

CRIT has selected Barry J. Parrish as its new Gaming Enterprise Director and General Manager of the BlueWater Resort & Casino.

An industry veteran with service at the renowned Turning Stone Resort & Casino, Cendant Corporation and Grey Advertising, among others, Parrish has a depth success with both corporations and advertising agencies.

Parrish started in his new position on August 28, and said he is enjoying his tenure so far.

"I've spent about 90 percent of the time meeting and talking with people," he said. "I want to get a real feel for the BlueWater experience. We have a fantastic team that has demonstrated a sense of urgency and the ability to provide an excellent guest experience."

Previously Vice President, Sales, Marketing & Entertainment for the Oneida Indian Nation's Turning Stone Resort & Casino complex in upstate New York (four hotels, 120,000sf casino, five golf courses, two spas and other amenities), Parrish's career spans more than 30 years of successful achievement.

During his tenure at Turning Stone, Parrish and his team were honored with 24 awards of excellence from such organizations as the American Gaming Association, Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International and others.

Parrish said that he jumped at the opportunity to come work at the BlueWater because he and his wife had wanted to return to the desert after living back east.



**Barry Parrish**

"I said that this was the type of facility I would be looking for," he said.

"In a lot of ways it is similar to Turning Stone, in that there are a wide variety of customer facilities, both gaming and non-gaming. It's an exceptional facility."

Earlier in his career, Parrish was instrumental in the turnaround of the Cendant Corporation's (now Wyndham Worldwide) Howard Johnson

brand, growing Howard Johnson to more than 600 locations and becoming one of the largest hotel brands in North America.

He also served as Vice President & Chief Marketing Officer for the Reno/Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority, and was Vice President/Managing Director of Grey Advertising's Travel Marketing division.

He said some of his immediate priorities are to significantly step up the BlueWater's promotions, with more contests and activities to draw people in.

Parrish also wants to reach out to the local community to come and play at the BlueWater, an approach he said has fallen by the wayside somewhat over the years.

"We have to regain the trust, confidence and loyalty of the local market," he said. "We've lost that in past years and I want to turn that around. We have to reach out to the tens of thousands of winter visitors in RV parks and campgrounds, and we've not really gone after those folks in the past."

"It's my intention to have the BlueWater rise to the position of being the entertainment capitol of western Arizona."

Parrish said that he will continue to talk with casino managers and employees about ways to improve the guest experience, as well as reaching out to the community "to find out how we work together toward a common goal."

"There have been a lot of changes here, but numerous people have stepped up and taken the opportunity to demonstrate what they can do to make the property better," he said.

"It's the people who count, not the person at the top."



## Get the latest CRIT news on Facebook and Twitter!

CRIT has established new pages on Facebook and Twitter to keep Tribal members updated on the latest news. Visit them today and sign up for updates, and we'll keep you posted in real time on the latest news on the CRIT Reservation. And, use the pages as a resource to get in touch with other Tribal members!

On Facebook, the direct link to CRIT's official page is: [www.facebook.com/ColoradoRiverIndianTribes](http://www.facebook.com/ColoradoRiverIndianTribes)

On Twitter, the direct link to CRIT's official page is: [www.twitter.com/CRITribes](http://www.twitter.com/CRITribes)

## Sign up today!



## Poston site of cleanup, TV filming



*Jim Yamaguchi (right, in hat) and wife Carol Doi (center), parents of Olympic figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi, were filmed this summer visiting the site of the Poston Internment Camp. Jim Yamaguchi spent part of his early childhood at the camp during World War II. They were filmed for a PBS series.*

The Poston Internment Camp was the scene of considerable activity over the summer as it was extensively cleaned up by the CRIT Environmental Protection Office and was filmed as part of a PBS special.

CRIT EPO oversaw the removal of lead paint and asbestos from buildings at the camp, a project paid for by the U.S. Department of Defense. The cleanup was necessary to make the buildings a safe place for human visitation.

The Poston Community Alliance, a group of relatives of former internees at the Japanese World War II camp as well as CRIT Tribal members, is working to preserve the Poston site for historical and tourism purposes.

The group was pleased that the cleanup took place, but now faces the task of weatherproofing and termite-proofing the newly exposed wood and construction in the buildings. It is working to raise funds to make

sure the buildings do not fall victim to additional problems as the group also works to restore the camp to a museum.

Also, in June, a PBS camera crew came to Poston to film the first visit in more than 60 years by Jim Yamaguchi, who was interned there as a young child.

Jim Yamaguchi is the father of Olympic figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi, and his story will be featured on the PBS series “Faces of America” in early 2010.

Tribal representatives, as well as Ruth Okimoto of the Poston Community Alliance, were on hand to help the PBS crew gain access to the facility and to fill them in on historical information.

“Faces of America” features Harvard Professor Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., and explores immigration and identity through the family histories of celebrity guests.

## EVENTS,

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the Parker Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Lighted Boat Parade. The parade begins at the Marina of the BlueWater Resort & Casino at 6 p.m. For more information and to pick up an application for the event contact the Parker Area Chamber of Commerce at (928) 669-2174.

- “Winter Dance Party” will perform in the Bingo Concert Hall on December 4 and 5. John Mueller’s “Winter Dance Party” is the official live and authentic re-creation of Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and the Big Bopper’s final tour. Doors open at 7:30 pm each night and the concert starts at 8 p.m. Tickets go on sale in the BlueWater Gift Shop on November 2 for \$25 in advance and \$30 day-of-show.

### Dig Lounge schedule

Dig Lounge bands are now playing four days a week Wednesday through Saturday. The hours are from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday and from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights.

There is also a DJ and Karaoke on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights. The hours for the DJ and Karaoke are from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

- October 14-17 — The T.J. Weaver Band, a four-piece band playing a wide variety of today’s and classic country music and classic rock.

- October 21-24 — L.A. Lyon, with a female fronting a three-piece band playing variety dance music, disco and Rhythm & Blues.

- October 28-31 — Daemine, playing classic rock, Rhythm & Blues and Top 40 dance music.

- November 4-7 — Swift Kick, with a female fronting a three-piece band specializing in current dance music along with selections from the 50s to 90s.

- November 11-14 — American Made, a four-piece band featuring a female singer playing a wide variety of classic rock, oldies, Rhythm & Blues, country, Top 40, disco and dance music.

- November 18-21 — Radio All-Stars, a band playing a wide variety of music including classic and modern rock, disco, Rhythm & Blues and Hip Hop.

- November 25-28 — Playground, a four-piece male band playing a wide variety of classic rock.

## COURT,

From Page 1

by CRIT against Water Wheel, Inc., and Robert Johnson for eviction and damages for past due, and holdover rent. Water Wheel had a 32-year lease for 26 acres of riverfront land along the California side of the Colorado River that expired in July 2007.

Water Wheel and Johnson were supposed to surrender the property peaceably and without resort to legal process upon expiration. They did not, and the Tribes filed suit. The Tribal court found in favor of the Tribes and assessed multi-million dollar damages, and the Tribal Court of Appeals affirmed the decision.

Thereafter, Water Wheel and Johnson sought relief in U.S. District Court from the Tribal Court judgment, claiming that the Judge (Gary LaRance) had no power to exercise personal jurisdiction over a nonmember (non-Indian owned) corporation, or a nonmember who acted only as an agent of the corporation.

The U.S. District Court’s decision said that “The most compelling facts in support of a consensual relationship between Water Wheel and CRIT are Water Wheel’s 32-year lease of tribal land and its three-year hold-over tenancy on that land. A lease is one of the classic examples of a consensual relationship cited by the Supreme Court...Indeed, it is difficult to think of a more consensual relationship than a nonmember’s occupancy of tribal land under a formal written agreement with the tribe.”

The court also wrote that “In an attempt to overcome the virtually dispositive fact of the lease, Plaintiffs argue that the property does not belong to CRIT, that the lease is not valid, and that the lease is with the United States, not CRIT...Plaintiffs quite inconsistently...assert that they are not challenging the Indian title or reservation status of the land. A federal court judgment [has determined] that the property is owned by the United States ‘in trust for the Colorado River Indian Tribes.’”

CRIT is pursuing damages and eviction of other tenants on the western boundary who have not paid their rents or abided by the terms of their leases. The decision will boost CRIT’s efforts on this front, and CRIT will proceed with its cases against these lessors in the coming weeks and months.



# Entries poured in for October Photo Contest



## Submit now, win in December

First place in the October 2009 Photo Contest went to Amelia Flores for her photo of Alyssa and Amber Aspa celebrating the 4th of July with “Top Salesdog” in Prescott (above right). She will receive \$100.

Second place goes to David Harper for his picture of daughter Hamuse' Hati Joyanne Harper with her grandmother Mamie Harper (above left). He will receive \$50 for his entry.

Third place goes to Fawn Begaye for her photo of daughter Nizhoni Begaye at Cabrillo Beach (below right). She will receive \$25.

Honorable mentions:

- Alyce Higgins for her photo of Cassandra Huff showing her scariest Halloween face (middle left).
  - Kendra Robledo for her photo of son Marques Robledo dancing with his Auntie Hilary (bottom left).
- More honorable mentions are on the opposite page.
- The deadline for submissions for the December issue is November 30. You must be a tribal member, and no professional portraits are eligible. Send your picture to: *Manataba Messenger*, C/O Rose & Allyn, 7144 E. Stetson Drive Suite 400, Scottsdale, AZ 85251. Or, e-mail the entry to [feedback@critonline.com](mailto:feedback@critonline.com).

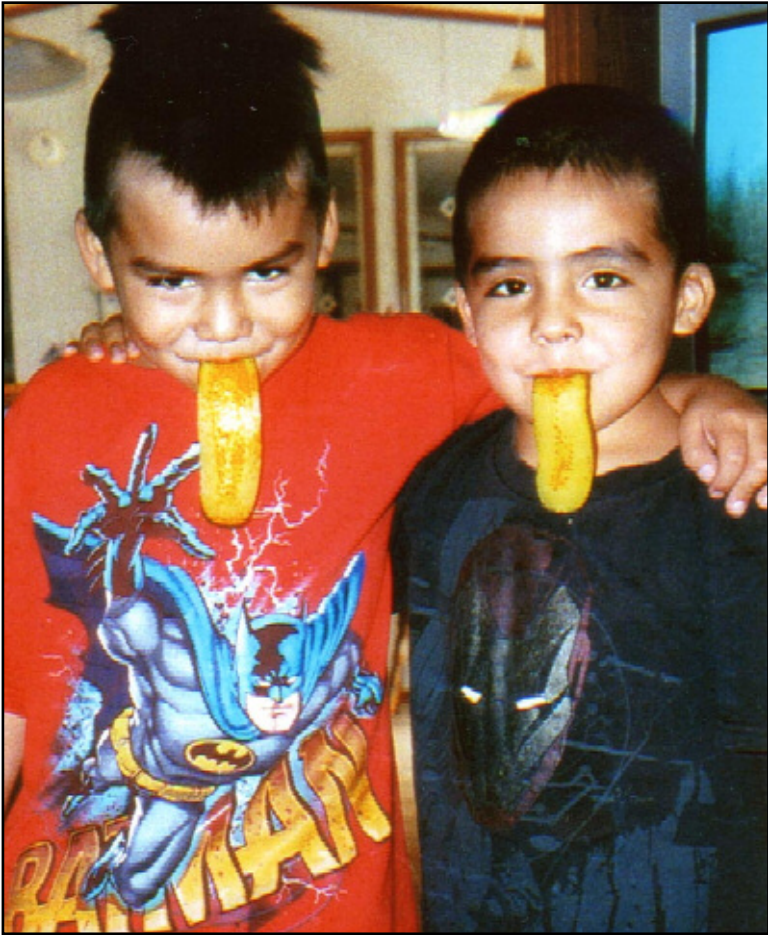






**Honorable Mentions...**

- Erma Stillman for her photo of Mona Lacy with the Keebler Elf (top left).
- Stephanie Enas for her photo of Sofia Rodriguez getting ready for football (middle left).
- Tonia Stone for her photo of Nina Drennan and Anthony Stone Jr. at Sea World (bottom left).
- Mollie Moreno Salgado for her photo of Cheyenne Salgado at age 3 pulling her uncle Jimmy in a wagon (above).
- Hanna Tiger for her photo of her two grandsons with pickle tongues (below).



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Key Tribal information  
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## CRIT Briefs

### Education offers culture programs

The CRIT Education Department is offering three distinct cultural programs in the Parker School District to help CRIT children learn in a more culturally sensitive environment.

- **Cooperative Learning Centers:** Students learn about the four CRIT Tribes through a language arts and social studies based program with five subject areas (reading, writing, storytelling, music and history). Each student has their own packet which acts as a workbook for writing assignments and reading stories. Teams spend about 30-40 minutes at each learning center, and also do wrap-ups where they can read their stories, do a dance with the songs they've learned or perform activities.
- **"Weedflower" Literature Study:** "Weedflower," a novel for young people, was chosen as the "One Book Arizona" selection of the year. It is the story of a Japanese-American girl who relocated to the Poston Internment Camp during World War II. CRIT Education has purchased a literature set for classrooms that is available to Parker district teachers.
- **One-Shot Visits:** CRIT Education is also offering one-time visits to classrooms to provide histories of the four CRIT Tribes. Any of these programs may be offered during the year in Parker School District classrooms.

To learn more about the programs being made available to the district, contact CRIT Education at (928) 669-8831.

### Big jackpot paid out at BlueWater

Wheel of Fortune!

A Lake Havasu City woman hit it big at the BlueWater Resort & Casino in late September, winning \$542,692.24 on a \$1 progressive "Wheel of Fortune" slot machine. The jackpot sets a record for BlueWater as the largest win ever on a one-dollar game in the history of the 10-year-old casino. The winner requested that her identity not be published.

"I'm absolutely thrilled that one of our most loyal customers has won a life-changing jackpot," said Barry J. Parrish, Enterprise Director & General Manager of the BlueWater. "The thrill and excitement of the winning spin electrified the entire casino."

### CRIT employee receives Hero award

In August, at the 41st Annual Southwestern School for Behavioral Health Studies, Lemuel Jones, a Substance Abuse Counselor with the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program, received the 2009 Unsung Hero Award.

The award is intended for those mental health and substance abuse professionals who distinguish themselves in the profession; demonstrate compassion and empathy for all they serve; promote, celebrate, and include an understanding of the individual and cultural differences in their delivery of services; exemplify ethical behavior and core values in the delivery of services; and communicate effectively and continue to learn new skills.

Individuals are nominated by their peers and ultimately selected by the Advisory Board to the Southwestern School for Behavioral Health Studies.

## Juvenile facility gets long-awaited funds

### Stimulus dollars to finance building of much-needed youth detention facility

CRIT has finally received federal funding to construct a long-awaited and much-needed detention center for juveniles.

In September, CRIT was awarded a \$4.6 million grant from the federal Reinvestment and Recovery Act to fund construction of a 15,000-square-foot, 20-bed facility.

Juveniles are currently sent to a Bureau of Indian Affairs facility in Towaoc, Colorado — more than 12 hours away from the reservation. Once there, they are separated from any family and tribal support and rehabilitation services and can quickly become institutionalized.

In response, the Tribal Council established the Juvenile Justice Review Committee (JJRC) comprised of stakeholders in the development of an improved juvenile justice system on the reservation. This group meets monthly and more frequently when required.

A number of options to solve the need for a secure facility to hold and house juveniles taken into custody by the Tribal Police were considered by CRIT officials.

In August 2005, CRIT applied for a highly competitive Indian Community Development

Block Grant (ICDBG). In March 2006 the Tribe was notified that it had been awarded a grant for \$825,000, the maximum amount the Tribe could receive. In addition, the Tribe provided a cash match of \$758,000 for the project.

The cost to construct a new facility that will provide a total of 20 beds (the number of beds could be increase with double bunking) is estimated to cost \$5,896,213.

The facility will have separation between status offenders and regular offenders. It will also have separate intake and holding areas with a kitchen to prepare meals, adequate dayroom, educational and behavioral counseling areas, and visitation and staff areas.

With only \$825,000 available through the HUD grant, and the Tribal match of \$758,000, a portion of which has been spent for the Architectural design and JSG consultant services, the Tribes did not have adequate financial resources to build such the facility when the design and detailed cot estimate was completed in 2007.

Since that time, CRIT has been working to secure the additional funds while also find ways to improve the existing tiny holding facility where juveniles are held prior to transport to the BIA Facility.

## — Birthdays & Announcements —

### Birthdays

- Happy Birthdays to the dedicated men and women of the CRIT Fire Department:  
October 24 — Orman "Scooter" Stanley.  
November 7 — Ingrid Stanley.  
December 3 — Robert Esquerra  
December 28 — Harry Moses III
- September 21 — Happy 11th Birthday to the light of my life! Tracie Jean Stanley "Bubs." Love, Auntie.
- September 21 — Happy Birthday to Tracie Stanley, Love Mom and Dad.
- October 15 — Happy Birthday to Courtney "Ole Man" Harper, Sr. From the Stanleys.
- October 24 — Happy Big "40" Scooter. Love, Your Sis Ing.
- December 17 — Happy Birthday to Shelly A. Short. From Tracie, Scooter, Ingrid & Harry.
- December 28 — Happy Birthday HM3!...and many more. 'Til death (lol) Ing.
- October 18 — Happy Birthday baby girl Cheyanne Ahasteen Canez. We love you! Mom, Dad, Blaize, and Selase.

### Retirement

A dinner was held to honor David Martinez, retiring Chief Game Warden of the CRIT Fish and Game Department, on September 9 in the Mohave Room at the BlueWater Resort and Casino.

Martinez served for more than 31 years as Chief Game Warden. The dinner was attended by Chairman Eldred Enas, Treasurer Dennis Welsh, Secretary Mervin Scott, Vice Chairman Wayne Patch, Councilwoman Amada Leivas



Sharpe, Councilman and Police Chief Richard Armstrong, David Martinez and his wife and daughters, and members of the Fish and Game Department including Acting Chief Game Warden Ray Aspa.

Martinez was awarded a plaque recognizing his 31 years of service. Each Council member gave a brief speech. Master of Ceremonies was Chairman Eldred Enas.

### In Memory...

• October 16 — To my father Malcom Ahasteen, it's been 7 years since you've joined grandma and grandpa in heaven. We miss you with all our hearts. We wish you could see your three beautiful grandchildren. Can you believe it, the youngest one has blond hair and blue eyes! But I see you in him. We are so proud to be your children. Until we meet again...Cathy and Jacob Ahasteen.

You may send your submissions via e-mail to [feedback@critonline.com](mailto:feedback@critonline.com).



# CRIT Head Start selects royalty



CRIT Head Start recently named its royalty for this year. The Head Start King is Emilio Vasquez (top photo, left). Head Start Queen is Kaitlyn Humeumtewa (top photo, right). The Head Start Princess is Shayna Etsitty (pictured on Page 11) and the Head Start Prince is Glen Dosela (bottom right).



# Changes to code will help members purchase homes

Federal programs to be available to finance home, property purchases

The CRIT Tribal Council recently passed a new Foreclosure Code that provides a process to foreclose on homes and other personal property located on the reservation.

But the biggest benefit from the new code will actually be realized by potential CRIT members who want to become homeowners.

The passing of the foreclosure provisions is an essential step in receiving approval to participate in the HUD Section 184 Indian Home Loan Guarantee Program.

The HUD Section 184 program was designed to offer home ownership and housing rehabilitation opportunities for eligible American Indians on their native lands, specifically lands held in trust.

A mortgage under the Section 184 program can be used to construct a single-family home, purchase an existing home, rehabilitate an existing home, and for refinancing a home that is already owned.

Borrowers who finance a mortgage under the Section 184 program have the benefit of a low down payment requirement, no monthly insurance, and flexible underwriting from an approved lender.

Bringing this program to CRIT greatly enhances the ability of tribal members to obtain financing to purchase or rehabilitate a home on the reservation, particularly on trust land where home mortgage financing opportunities have historically been very limited.

Once CRIT receives final approval from the U.S. Department of Housing, an informational session will be scheduled for community members interested in the program.

CRIT is also pursuing approval to participate in the USDA Rural Development and VA home loan programs.

Please contact the CRIT Attorney General's Office for questions regarding the Foreclosure Code or Section 184 program at (928) 669-1271.

## CRIT Children's Residential Center

Accepting donations:  
New and Old items for children of all ages  
Clothes, hygiene products, toys, school supplies, art work, etc.

12001 West Agency Road  
Parker, Arizona 85344  
(928) 669-2459  
lpaquette@cpes.com



# Native American Days celebrates best of CRIT



There were many sights and sounds to be captured during the 37th Annual Native American Days Celebration. Here are just a few of them from the weeklong event:

(Top left) Contestant in the Traditional Dress Baby Contest, 1st place winner, Darwin T. Welsh, IV and mom Anna Hart.

(Bottom left) Ryan Milazzo and Ernie Enas, 2009 Native American Days Horeshoe Champs.

(Above) The Volleyball Tourney brought teams out to enjoy the weather. It was sponsored by CRIT Recreation.

(Below) Lila and Whitney James, granddaughters to the late Tom Claw, Navajo Code

Talker, who in memory still makes the annual parade.

(Opposite page, top left) New 2009-10 Miss CRITs, from left to right, Junior Miss Aliese Murphy, Miss CRIT Hazel Flood and Little Miss CRIT Bailey Martin.

(Opposite page, middle left) The CRIT Head Start float in the Native American Days Parade, with students.

(Opposite page, bottom left) CRIT Hopi Dance group the Moore family.

(Opposite page, top right) Shayna Etsitty, Head Start Princess, makes her debut.

**Photos Courtesy of Valerie Welsh-Tahbo.**







## *Baby Contest Winners*

### **Cradleboard**

- 1st Place – Victoria Rodriguez
- 2nd Place – Keymani Flores
- 3rd Place – Justin Fisher

### **Infant**

- 1st Place – Darwin Welsh
- 2nd Place – Lee Beth Eddy
- 3rd Place – Hamasea Harper

### **Toddler**

- 1st Place – Danon Molina
- 2nd Place – Jessica McDowell

### **Tiny Tot**

- 1st Place – Marley Welsh
- 2nd Place – Ethan Sharp
- 3rd Place – Jordan Villanetta

### **Pee Wee**

- 1st Place – Julia Sakiestewa
- 2nd Place – Amiya Rose
- 3rd Place – Ilena Stone

We had one Gift Bag left over in the Toddler Category; this bag was given to Sharon Burton to be used at the Traditional Dance Area as either a Prize or Raffle.





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### **We Want To Hear From You!**

The *Manataba Messenger* is a publication of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.

If you have a question, story idea, suggestion, letter to the editor or anything else you'd like to see in the *Manataba Messenger*, call or write us...

**26600 Mohave Road**  
**Parker, AZ 85344**  
**(928) 669-1233 or**  
**(928) 669-1223**  
**[feedback@critonline.com](mailto:feedback@critonline.com)**

Also, for a comprehensive listing of key tribal information, back issues of *The Manataba Messenger*, tourism information and other CRIT Tribal information, visit the Tribes' web site:

**[www.critonline.com](http://www.critonline.com)**

**Don't forget the  
December photo contest!**

### **Advertise With Us!**

Now you can reach the 3,800 members of the Colorado River Indian Tribes directly. *Manataba Messenger*, the official publication of CRIT, is distributed by mail to all members and at newsstands at prominent locations throughout the Parker area, including the BlueWater Resort & Casino.

For more information, please call (928) 669-1233 or 669-1223.

## **Ellsbury's big season can't save Red Sox**

### **Tribal member leads American League in stolen bases; team loses in playoffs**

CRIT Tribal member Jacoby Ellsbury had an outstanding season for Major League Baseball's Boston Red Sox, emerging as an everyday starter and budding superstar.

However, the Red Sox suffered a disappointing end to their season, getting swept in three games by the Los Angeles Angels in the American League Divisional Playoffs.

A late-season hitting surge boosted Ellsbury to a season-ending batting average of .301, with eight home runs and 60 runs batted in, mostly from the leadoff spot in the lineup.

Boston won a wild card spot in the playoffs this year, finishing runner-up in the American League East to the New York Yankees.



**Jacoby Ellsbury**

They played the American League West Champion Los Angeles Angels in the first round of the playoffs.

Unfortunately for the Red Sox, their bats went cold and they lost all three games in the series.

Regarded as one of the fastest players in baseball, Ellsbury led the American League in stolen bases this year with 70, shattering the Red Sox record of 54 in one season set by Tommy Harper in 1973.

Ellsbury played in a total of 153 of the club's 162 regular season games.

He had three hits, including a triple, in 12 post-season at-bats this year.

Boston last won the World Series in 2007, with Ellsbury playing a key role on that team. Ellsbury was a star player at Oregon State University before being drafted by the Red Sox in the first round of the Major League Baseball draft in 2005.

## **CRIT looking for new emergency responders**

### **Volunteer program will help agency meet community needs in disasters**

The CRIT Office of Emergency Management is currently looking for volunteers to become Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members.

CERT promotes a partnership between emergency management, response agencies and the people in the community that they serve.

The goal is to train members of the community and within workplaces in basic emergency response skills.

CERT teams are formed and maintained as part of the emergency response plans for a specific area.

CERT members provide immediate assistance to victims in their areas, organize other

volunteers, and collect information that will assist emergency workers with prioritization and allocation of resources when they arrive.

CERT members can also volunteer for special projects that improve the community's preparedness and response capability.

The basic CERT training is a 20-hour course that covers disaster preparedness, fire suppression, basic disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, disaster psychology and team organization.

It now includes a new module on terrorism, weapons of mass destruction and chemical agents.

If you are interested in becoming a CERT member, please contact Roger Interlicchia, CRIT Office of Emergency Management, at (928) 669-1253. Classes are being formed at this time.